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Commission on the Status of Women
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Agenda item 3
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Angola:* draft resolution

Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001, entitled "Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", adopted at its twenty-sixth special session, held in New York from 25 to 27 June 2001,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 57/299 of 20 December 2002, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS",

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the development goals contained therein, in particular the aim of Member States to have halted, by 2015, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS,[1]

Reaffirming the agreed conclusions adopted at its forty-fifth session, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",[2]

Recalling its resolution 46/2 of 15 March 2002, entitled "Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)",

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* On behalf of the Southern African Development Community and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 19.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 1* (E/2001/99), resolution 2001/5.

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Recognizing that HIV/AIDS is a humanitarian crisis that disproportionately affects women and adolescent girls, who are socially, culturally, biologically and economically more vulnerable,

1. *Stresses* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and emphasizes that the advancement of women and girls is key to reversing the pandemic;

2. *Reaffirms* the need for Governments, supported by relevant actors, to continue to implement the commitments on HIV/AIDS contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[3] and to effectively reflect in their national policies and strategies the gender dimension of the pandemic, in line with the goals set for 2005;

3. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to strengthen women's economic independence and to protect and promote their human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to allow them to protect themselves from HIV infection;

4. *Welcomes* the financial contributions made towards the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and urges further contributions to sustain the Fund, in fulfilment of paragraph 80 of the Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS;

5. *Encourages* the continued collaboration and cooperation of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other United Nations agencies to cope with the growing links between HIV/AIDS and other humanitarian programmes;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment by the United Nations Development Fund for Women of its new online resource centre and web portal on gender and AIDS, which will provide widespread information on the gender dimension of the pandemic and more appreciation of the critical intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS;

7. *Calls* for enhanced efforts at gender mainstreaming in the development of HIV/AIDS programmes and policies, in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes and in mass media reporting;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in his reports on HIV/AIDS, to take a gender perspective into account.

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[3] General Assembly resolution S-26/2.